

any lease sale in order to establish information needed for assessment and management of impacts on the human, marine and coastal environments which may be affected by OCS oil and gas activities in such area or region. Any study shall, to the extent practicable, be designed to predict environmental impacts of pollutants introduced into the environments and of the impacts of offshore activities on the seabed and affected coastal areas.

(b) Studies shall be planned and carried out in cooperation with the affected States and interested parties and, to the extent possible, shall not duplicate studies done under other laws. Where appropriate, the Director shall, to the maximum extent practicable, enter into agreements with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in executing the environmental studies responsibilities. By agreement, the Director may also utilize services, personnel or facilities of any Federal, State or local government agency in the conduct of such study.

(c) Any study of an area or region required by paragraph (a) of this section for a lease sale shall be commenced not later than six months prior to holding a lease sale for that area. The Director may utilize information collected in any prior study. The Director may initiate studies for areas or regions not identified in the leasing program.

(d) After the leasing and developing of any area or region, the Director shall conduct such studies as are deemed necessary to establish additional information and shall monitor the human, marine and coastal environments of such area or region in a manner designed to provide information which can be compared with the results of studies conducted prior to OCS oil and gas development. This shall be done to identify any significant changes in the quality and productivity of such environments, to establish trends in the areas studies, and to design experiments identifying the causes of such changes. Findings from such studies shall be used to recommend modifications in practices which are employed to mitigate the effects of OCS activities and to enhance the data/information base for predicting impacts which might result

from a single lease sale or cumulative OCS activities.

(e) Information available or collected by the studies program shall, to the extent practicable, be provided in a form and in a timeframe that can be used in the decision-making process associated with a specific leasing action or with longer term OCS minerals management responsibilities.

#### APPENDIX A TO PART 256—OIL AND GAS CASH BONUS BID

The following bid is submitted for an oil and gas lease on the area of the Outer Continental Shelf specified below:

Tract No.*	Total amount bid	Amount per acre (or per hectare)	Amount of cash submitted with bid

\*Or, if tract numbers are not used, Protraction Diagram or Leasing Map and block number.

Bidder qualification No.	Proportionate interest of company(s) submitting bid	Name and address of bidding company
— Misc. No. ....	.....	

\_\_\_\_\_,  
Authorized signatory's name and title.

[47 FR 25972, June 16, 1982. Redesignated at 47 FR 47006, Oct. 22, 1982]

### PART 259—MINERAL LEASING: DEFINITIONS

Sec.

259.001 Purpose and scope.

259.002 Definitions.

AUTHORITY: Pub. L. 83-212, 67 Stat. 462, 43 U.S.C. 1331 *et seq.*, as amended by Pub. L. 95-372, 92 Stat. 629.

#### §259.001 Purpose and scope.

The purpose of this part 259 is to define various terms appearing in parts 260, 261 and 262 of this chapter.

[48 FR 1182, Jan. 11, 1983]

#### §259.002 Definitions.

For purposes of parts 260, 261, and 262 of this chapter:

*Area* or *region* means the geographic area or region over which the MMS

designated official has jurisdiction, unless the context in which those words are used indicates that a different meaning is intended.

*Designated official* means a representative of DOI subject to the direction and supervisory authority of the Director, MMS, and the appropriate Regional Manager of the MMS authorized and empowered to supervise and direct all oil and gas operations and to perform other duties prescribed in 30 CFR part 250 (offshore).

*Director* means Director, MMS, DOI.

*DOI* means the Department of the Interior, including the Secretary of the Interior, or his or her delegate.

*Federal lease* means an agreement which, for any consideration, including, but not limited to, bonuses, rents or royalties conferred, and covenants to be observed, authorizes a person to explore for, or develop, or produce (or to do any or all of these) oil and gas, coal, oil shale, tar sands, and geothermal resources on lands or interests in lands under Federal jurisdiction.

*Gas* means natural gas as defined by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

*MMS* means Minerals Management Service.

*OCS* means the Outer Continental Shelf, which includes all submerged lands (1) that lie seaward outside of the area of lands beneath navigable waters as defined in the Submerged Lands Act (Pub. L. 31-35, 67 Stat. 29, (43 U.S.C. 1301)) and (2) of which the subsoil and seabed appertain to the United States are subject to its jurisdiction and control.

*OCSLA* means the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act, as amended (Act of August 7, 1953, Ch. 345, 67 Stat. 462, 43 U.S.C. 1331 *et seq.*, as amended by Pub. L. 95-372, 92 Stat. 629).

*Oil* means a mixture of hydrocarbons that exists in a liquid or gaseous phase in an underground reservoir and which remains or becomes liquid at atmospheric pressure after passing through surface separating facilities, including condensate recovered by means other than a manufacturing process.

[48 FR 1182, Jan. 11, 1983]

## PART 260—OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF OIL AND GAS LEASING

### Subpart A—General Provisions

Sec.

260.001 Purpose and scope.

260.002 Definitions.

### Subpart B—Bidding Systems

260.101 Purpose and scope.

260.102 Definitions.

260.110 Bidding systems.

260.111 Criteria for selection of bidding systems and bidding system components.

### Subpart C [Reserved]

### Subpart D—Joint Bidding

260.301 Purpose.

260.302 Definitions.

260.303 Joint bidding requirements.

AUTHORITY: 43 U.S.C. 1331 and 1337.

SOURCE: 45 FR 9539, Feb. 12, 1980, unless otherwise noted. Redesignated at 48 FR 1182, Jan. 11, 1983.

### Subpart A—General Provisions

#### § 260.001 Purpose and scope.

The purpose of this part 260 is to implement OCSLA, 43 U.S.C. 1331 *et seq.*, as amended, by providing regulations to foster competition including, but not limited to, regulations to prohibit joint bidding for development rights by certain types of joint ventures; the implementation of alternative bidding systems (including suspension of royalties for a period, volume, or value of production); and the establishment of diligence requirements for Federal OCS leases issued under the OCSLA.

[61 FR 3804, Feb. 2, 1996]

#### § 260.002 Definitions.

For purposes of this part 260:

*OCSLA* means the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act, (43 U.S.C. 1331 *et seq.*), as amended.

*OCS lease* means a Federal lease for oil and gas issued under the OCSLA.

*Person* includes, in addition to a natural person, an association, a State, or